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August 25, 1999

Dear Mr./Mrs. Lillian & Art Gorbaty,:

As a recent guest of the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) on an inspection trip to the Colorado River Aqueduct and/or the State Water Project, you have a clear understanding, and a vested interest in Orange County's water supply situation. Because of this, I am asking for your support at a public hearing on September 2nd in Costa Mesa.

You may recall our discussions about the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. The Delta is a critical source of drinking water for 2/3rds of all Californians, but is also the source of much controversy. For several decades it has been the battleground for environmental, agricultural and urban water user interest groups – all of who are trying to repair and protect the Delta. The CALFED program was created to rectify the many problems in the Delta and to secure a reliable supply of high quality water for California's citizens. The CALFED Program has recently released its Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report, (PEIS/EIR) which outlines its proposals for solutions. Unfortunately, we believe that the PEIS/EIR does nothing more than promise to try to achieve what we had been led to believe it would succeed in accomplishing. It is imperative that Southern Californians express their concerns about the proposed solutions and demand that solutions are created which will *ensure* a safe and reliable supply of water from the Bay-Delta for our citizens. The CALFED Program is conducting public hearings across the State as part of its formal public comment period.

On behalf of MWDOC, I would like you to attend the Orange County public hearing, which will be held on **Thursday, September 2nd at 6:00 p.m. at the Westin South Coast Plaza Hotel, 686 Anton Blvd., Costa Mesa.** This public hearing is important in that it gives Orange County citizens and water providers the opportunity to communicate with the staff and decision-makers of this CALFED Program. We believe that your presence is important in creating a strong show of support for the Orange County position. We believe that by having a large number of people attend this hearing, it will communicate that Orange County citizens are serious about this issue and want solutions that will benefit us. Your attendance is the most important show of support – you do not necessarily need to testify or offer any public comments. However, if you are interested in doing so and would like some assistance in developing some talking points, please feel free to call Keith Coolidge, MWDOC Associate General Manager at (714) 963-3058.

The CALFED Program is considered one of the most significant public policy issues that our State has faced. It is my sincere hope that you are able to attend this hearing and help impact this major decision. I have enclosed a copy of the PEIS/EIR as well as a copy of the key points that MWDOC intends to communicate at this hearing. Thank you and we look forward to seeing you on September 2nd.

Sincerely,

Ken Witt

Metropolitan Director